



Arlington Disability Commission Agenda

Date: Wednesday, December 21, 2022

Time: 4:00pm

Location: Conducted by Hybrid Participation

This will be a hybrid meeting. Individuals may choose one of the following in-person or virtual options:

1. Attend in person at the Community Center 20 Academy Street/27 Maple Street. Registration not required for in-person attendance.
2. *Notice to the Public on meeting privacy* In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

When: Dec 21, 2022 4:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/j/86121791023>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Paul Raia, Grace Carpenter, Paul Parravano, Kerrie Fallon

Guests: Janice Cagan-Teuber, Lisa Drennan, Sarah Forster, Teresa Marzilli, Tim Ross

Absent: Karen Mathiasen, Ileana Gatica, Mike Rademacher, Cynthia DeAngelis, Rebecca Gruber, Ellen Leigh

Agenda

1. Call to Order, Read Ground Rules, Welcome (5 min)
2. Ground rules (2 min)
 - a. [Please don't use Zoom chat/messaging during the meeting, unless that is your primary way to participate in a meeting. The co-chairs have disabilities

that make it hard to deal with Zoom chat/messaging]

3. Approve Draft November Meeting Minutes (2 min)
 - a. No quorum to vote
4. Hybrid meeting procedures (5 min)
 - a. Enable captions on the Neatboard
 - b. Survey will need to be filled out by co-chairs
 - c. Education of Community Center staff on location of conference room
5. MERGE Inclusion Consulting (20 min)
 - a. Community Inclusion, 5 models of participation 1) Exclusion 2) Specialized 3) Integrated 4) Unified/Peer Buddy 5) Inclusion
 - b. Help more spaces in our community be inclusive
 - c. Emphasis on access, inclusion, and belonging
 - d. Lisa has over 30 years of experience in helping folks with disabilities, providing training and education for general community members
 - e. Training options – recreational, social or community organizations. Customized for each organization.
 - f. MERGE – preliminary assessment, customized training to meet our needs, hands on exercises, inclusion scenario problem solving, leadership team implementation plan.
 - g. lisadrennan@mergeconsulting.org
6. Bylaws Review (10 min)
 - a. Importance of verifying terms, commissioners should be aware of when their terms are due to end.
 - b. Paul P wants the commission to think about potentially changing term limits, have commissioners reflect on how much time and effort they have available to dedicate to the commission.
 - c. How do we identify younger and more diverse commissioners?
 - d. Paul R said it's important to get new life experiences on the commission so it can thrive. Also important to keep former commissioners still involved as volunteers, as to not lose out on their knowledge.
 - e. Grace wants people to think about if they would like to be a co-chair once the current co-chair terms end. Stated there's no structure right now that everyone has enough information about becoming a co-chair.
 - f. Ellen raised the concern of all 3 co-chairs stepping down at the same time.
 - g. Janice stated a staggered term limit could be beneficial so new co-chairs can have a mentor.
 - h. Rebecca stated there is talk around other commissions and Town as a general term limit warrant.
 - i. Sarah asked if there is a stipend available for attending meetings. Community Service hours or making it part of a course for high school students.
7. Commission Updates (15 min)
 - a. Reach out to the CoA so we can get a note in their newsletter about the ADA Grievance process so more residents are aware.
 - b. Paul R stated Perkins School for the Blind will create braille menus for restaurants free of charge.
 - c. Ellen would like to work with businesses in town evaluating accessibility. Can we create an accessibility working group? Can the commission sponsor a survey? Tax incentives for increasing accessibility.
 - d. Janice stated Mayor Wu put out executive order that all televisions in any bar or restaurant must have their closed captioning on.
 - e. Teresa stated it would be a great engagement project to do something active

in the community by surveying businesses. Choice places where we can post the ADA grievance procedure so that residents will see it, for example the Arlington Housing Authority.

- f. Outreach update – Kerrie said we have identified short and longterm goals for outreach. Working on getting a mailchimp account so we can effectively communicate with the Town. Potentially have an “Inclusion Fest” to bring the community together as to what we’ve be working on. Survey to understand the needs of folks with disabilities. Stakeholder analysis to identify them and understand their needs. What resources and assets are there to increase transportation for disabled residents.

8. DPW Updates (5 min)

- a. Michael Rademacher is not here, will update us next meeting.

9. DEI Updates (5 min)

- a.

10. Robbins Farm Park Playground (10 min)

11. Public Comment (10 min)

12. Next meeting Wednesday January 18, 2023 at 4PM

13. Closing

Commission members not able to attend please email dei@town.arlington.ma.us prior to the scheduled meeting.

Anyone needing accessibility information or other assistance in order to attend this meeting should contact dei@town.arlington.ma.us. This meeting is open to all interested individuals.